

**AGENDA ITEM:** System Advisory Board

**GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:**

**CURRENT STATUS:** The System Advisory Board Program continues to make available to Systems a means for directly incorporating citizen advice in planning and delivering System services. According to Section 18750 of the Act, "The duties of each system advisory board shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Assisting the Administrative Council in the development of the system plan of service.
- (b) Advising the Administrative Council on the need for services and programs.
- (c) Assisting in the evaluation of the services provided by the system."

The setting of objectives to accomplish the duties stated above are determined by each System and reported upon in their Annual Plans of Service.

A policy adopted by the Board in August 1985 authorized the charging of system administrative indirect costs against the CLSA System Reference, System Communication & Delivery and System Advisory Board Program allocations, whereby up to 25% of each service program baseline may be used for System Planning, Coordination & Evaluation (PC&E).

The Governor's proposed budget for 2002/03, as introduced in January, is identical to the current year appropriation.

**TRANSITION PROCESS:** The Library of California Act does not include a regional library network user advisory board similar to the CLSA System Advisory Boards. However, the Act does require that each regional library network Council include a library user from each type of member library and that each regional library network Board of Directors include at least one library user. These library users represent library users in the region and have the same status and voting rights as the library members of the network. The Support Services Committee has outlined transition steps for the CLSA System Advisory Board program as follows:

1. Begin transition when all regional library networks formation is complete and staff reports that their boards are in place.
2. Prepare a BCP that will receive Department of Finance approval that will move all CLSA funding to the Library of California for support for the regional library network boards. Funds will be added to those in the current budget for support

of the regional library networks.

3. Once funds are moved to the Library of California, a declaration of transition will be prepared by the Board and the SAB section of the CLSA shall be repealed.

The requirements for a library user on a regional library network board or council appear to have the same intent as the CLSA System Advisory Board Program, which is to provide a mechanism to involve the user community in the planning and development of services, to foster communication between the administrative bodies and library users, and to ensure that the network's services meet the needs of its users. The establishment and related duties of regional library network Councils and Boards are included in the mandatory Administration program element of the Library of California, and therefore that program would be the most likely target area for transitioning this particular CLSA program into the multitype network of the Library of California.

This would not prevent a regional library network from also establishing an advisory committee of representatives from its member libraries' user communities, if it wished to take such action.

**RELATED ISSUE TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE:** Summary of System Plans of Service (August).

Relevant Committee: Support Services  
Staff liaison: Sandy Habbestad